



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

1617  
IFW

**Applicants:** Stephen D. Barrett, et al.

**Examiner:** San-ming Hui

**Serial No:** 10/031,037

**Art Unit:** 1617

**Filed:** May 13, 2002

**Docket:** 18117 (PC17971A)

**For:** METHOD FOR TREATING  
CHRONIC PAIN USING  
MEK INHIBITORS

**Dated:** October 5, 2004

**Confirmation No.** 4473

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§1.111 AND 1.143**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 7, 2004, setting forth a requirement for restriction, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.111 and 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, the subject matter of Group II, Claims 1-32, drawn to a method of treating chronic pain by employing compounds with formula I, wherein Z is (v).

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 5, 2004

Dated: October 5, 2004

  
Peter I. Bernstein